Montana State Legislature

2013 Session

Exhibit +

This exhibit is a booklet which can not be scanned, therefore only the front cover/table of content has been scanned to aid in your research.

The original exhibits are on file at the Montana Historical Society and may be viewed there.

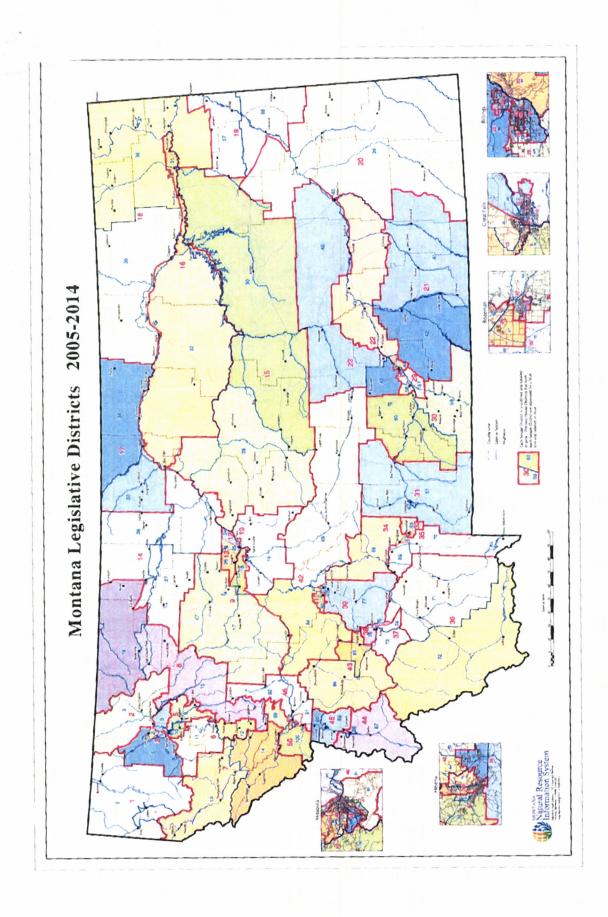
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Big Sky. Big Land. Big History. MIONTANA Historical Society

Services Provided to the Citizens of the Treasure State by the Montana Historical Society, 2009 to 2012

(Data arranged by county)



Montana Historical Society Statewide Services

The five operational programs of the Montana Historical Society— Education and Outreach, Historic Preservation, Museum, Research Center, and Publications—provide essential services to Treasure State citizens living in all of Montana's fifty-six counties. Listed below is a brief summary of just a few of the Society's statewide offerings between 2009 and 2012. On the pages that follow, more detail is given in regard to some of the specific services rendered to the residents of each county.

- The Big Read: This program, funded through grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Institute of Museum and Library Services, was designed to reach rural middle and high school students. It served seventeen schools across the state, providing books and bringing public programs to these communities and MHS services directly to the classrooms.
- Centennial Farms & Ranches Program: The 2009 Montana Legislature created the Montana Centennial Farm and Ranch Program to recognize and commemorate the agricultural traditions of Montana. Through this program, farm and ranch families that have owned or lived on their land for 100 years or more may be recognized for their contribution to Montana's history. Twenty-two farms and ranches located in twelve counties have been recognized.
- Exhibits and Tours: The Montana Historical Society Museum features both long-term and temporary exhibits. Currently, the Education and Outreach Services Program offers a variety of docent-led, age-appropriate tours of the Montana Homeland Exhibit, Neither Empty nor Unknown: Montana at the Time of Lewis and Clark, and the Mackay Gallery of Charles M. Russell Art. Additionally tours are provided to the special exhibits which have included Land of Many Stories; The People and Histories of Glacier National Park which commemorated the 100th anniversary of the formation of Glacier National Park, The Art of Story Telling: Plains Indian Perspectives which highlighted magnificent examples of Plains Indian pictographic art from MHS collections; Mapping Montana: Two Centuries of Cartography; An Artist's Journey: The Life and Works of E. S. Paxson; Winchester Lever-Action Rifles: Iconic Firearms of the American West; Montana Modern, and the Newman Myrah Retrospective. Pre-visit and post-visit lessons for some tours are also available on-line for teachers to complete with their students before and after their visits to the Museum. In addition we offer guided tours of the Montana state capitol, "the People's House," and the Original Governor's Mansion. School and other youth groups, adult groups, and individual citizens from all parts of the state regularly take advantage of these offerings.
- Exhibits Traveling: In addition to in-house exhibits, the Museum also maintains an active traveling exhibit program, making available high-quality exhibits to museums and other educational institutions all across the state. In addition, the "Camp to Capital" program offers tours of historic Helena and serves hundreds of local and visiting public school children each year.
- Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program: The State Historic Preservation
 Office (SHPO) administers the federal tax credit program for the rehabilitation of
 commercial, income-producing historic buildings at the state level. Between 2009-2012,
 \$13.9 million in investments in Montana rehabilitation projects have been approved for the

- 20% credit. Among the most recent successfully completed and certified projects are the Ouellette Place in Lewistown and the Babcock Theater in Billings.
- Footlocker and Curriculum Resources: The Montana Historical Society provides a wide range of resources created for use in the classroom and by home-schools. Footlockers contain hands-on objects and User Guides on nineteen different topics; the User Guides provide instructions for classroom/home-school use and include historical narratives, a bibliography, lessons, and information on the ways in which these resources comply with Montana Standards for Social Studies guidelines. The Society also offers an ever-growing selection of other resources, including lesson plans, through its website for use by both educators and students.
- Montana Certified Local Government Program: The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) annually passes through a minimum of 10% of its federal preservation funding to local communities and counties participating in the National Park Service Certified Local Government (CLG) program for historic preservation, under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. In 2012, \$82,500 (10.5%) was sub-granted to local historic preservation offices in 16 Montana CLGs, including Anaconda-Deer Lodge County, Billings-Laurel-Yellowstone County, Bozeman (Gallatin County), Butte-Silver Bow County, Carbon County, Columbus-Stillwater County, Deer Lodge (Powell County), Great Falls-Cascade County, Hardin-Big Horn County, Havre-Hill County, Helena-Lewis & Clark County, Lewistown (Fergus County), Livingston (Park County), Miles City (Custer County), Missoula (Missoula County), and Virginia City (Madison County).
- Montana Historic Preservation Plan: Every five years, the State Historic Preservation
 Office is responsible for the preparation of the statewide historic preservation plan. This plan
 identifies resources, issues, goals, and objectives important to the preservation of
 archaeological, historic and traditional cultural properties in Montana. The current plan,
 PRESERVE MONTANA: The Montana Historic Preservation Plan, 2008-2012
 (http://mhs.mt.gov/shpo/surveyplanning/HistPresPlan.asp) is presently being updated for
 2013-2017.
- Montana County History Initiative: The Montana County History Initiative (MCHI) was a
 statewide outreach effort to build relationships among people working with Montana's local
 history and heritage resources, and to provide support in the form of training and expertise.
 The Montana Historical Society assists counties and local governments, museums, librarians,
 and educators in celebrating the riches of their own community heritage. This program took
 educational programs and funding to counties throughout the state.
- Montana Digital Newspaper Project: In 2009 and 2011 the Research Center was awarded a National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP) grant from the Library of Congress and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Funding has been received to digitize 150,000 newspaper pages from microfilm in the Research Center's collections. These newspaper pages will be made available through the Library of Congress' Chronicling America website, http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov. Newspapers from twenty-three counties will be digitized for this project.
- Montana History Conference: This highly anticipated annual event brings together quality speakers from across the state and nation to celebrate Montana heritage, regional history, and local communities. Now entering its 38th year, the location of the Montana History Conference rotates around the state. In the past four years it has been held in Great Falls (2009), Helena (celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Glacier National Park, 2010), Missoula

- (2011) and in Helena (2012). Next year's conference will be held in Sidney and will examine the cycle of boom and bust in Montana history.
- Montana History Wiki: The Montana History Wiki is an online electronic collection of information gathered to help guide researchers to the resources available through the Research Center. It is designed to assist researchers in finding the best resource for their projects or topics. The wiki includes sources not available elsewhere, such as indexes for the MHS Montana Newspaper holdings and vertical files. It includes bibliographies for a wide range of Montana topics from Montana African Americans to Women's Clubs as well as a section on Montana Trivia. The Montana History Wiki is designed to expand with the needs of and evolving interests of Montana's citizens and others interested in Montana's rich history and cultural heritage.
- Montana Memory Project: The Montana Memory Project (www.mtmemory.org) is an online collection of digital materials relating to Montana's cultural heritage. Access is free and open through the Internet. Many of the items housed in the Montana Memory Project are digitized copies of historic material; some items are contemporary. All serve as a resource for education, business, pleasure, and lifelong learning. Many Montana libraries, museums, archives, and cultural institutions have added or are in the process of adding materials to this comprehensive collection. Contents include digital newspapers, maps, copies of photographs, rare books, historic documents, diaries, oral histories, audio and video clips, paintings, illustrations, art, etc. The Montana Historical Society Research Center, with the Montana State Library, provides financial and technical support for the project, and is a contributing institution.
- Montana Preserve America Program: Since 2006, SHPO has successfully applied for and received over a half million dollars (\$569,327) in grants from the national Preserve America program administered by the National Park Service. SHPO sub-granted or contracted over 90% of this funding to competitive local and statewide preservation and heritage tourism projects benefiting the 23 designated Montana Preserve America communities: Anaconda-Deer Lodge, Bighorn County, Billings, Bozeman, Butte-Silver Bow, Crow Tribe, Fort Benton, Great Falls, Havre, Helena, Hill County, Jefferson County, Kalispell, Lewis &and Clark County, Lewistown, Livingston, Miles City, Missoula, Missoula County, Red Lodge, Stevensville, Terry and Virginia City.
- Montana State Antiquities Database: The Montana state antiquities database, managed by the State Historic Preservation Office, holds information on all known historic, archaeological, and traditional cultural places recorded in Montana. Over 53,000 properties have been recorded. Additionally, over 30,000 cultural resource studies and reports are also curated by the SHPO. This information guides development activities in all Montana counties in compliance with national, state, and local preservation laws. The database is presently undergoing a major transformation into a more efficient and comprehensive geographic information system (GIS) to facilitate more accurate and timely project reviews and planning.
- Montana: Stories of the Land: In 2008 the Montana Historical Society published a much-needed and long-awaited, middle school-level, state history textbook. The Society reprinted Montana: Stories of the Land in 2009. Due to generous grants from the Washington Foundation, the Steele-Reese Foundation, the Office of Public Instruction-Indian Education for All Office, and others the Society has been able to donate 10,470 free copies of this textbook to over 250 schools and libraries located in fifty-five of Montana's fifty-six counties.

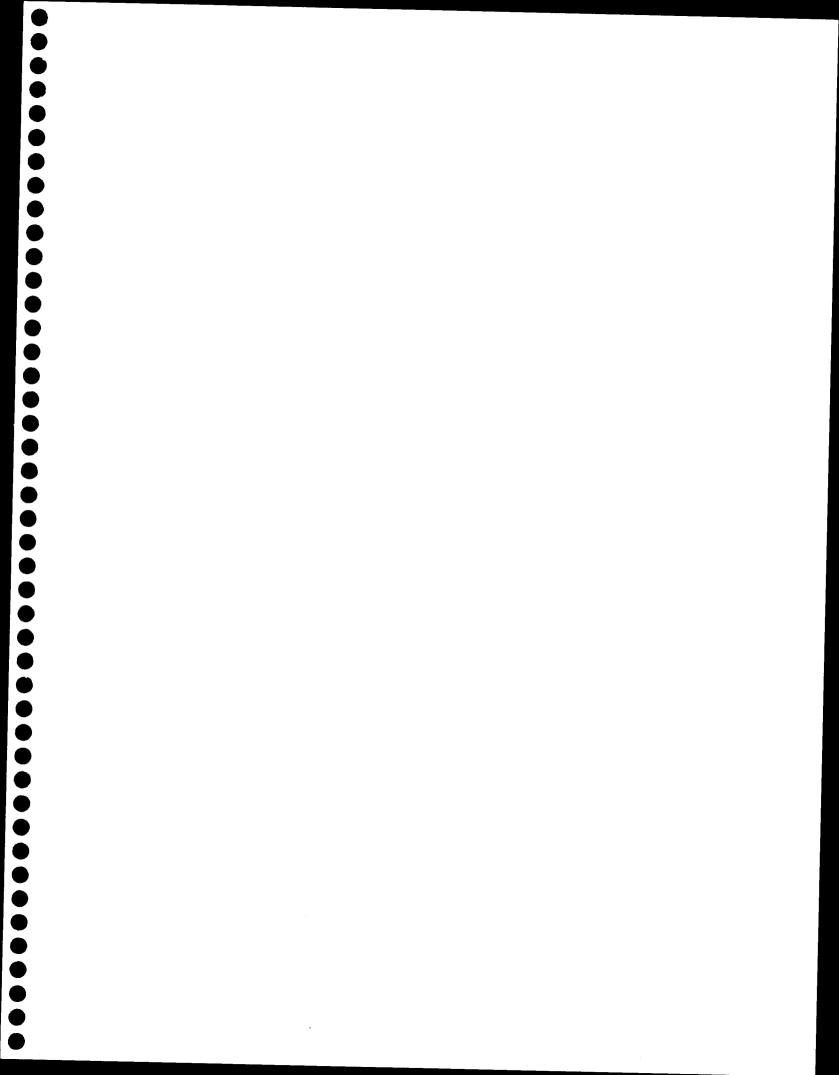
- Montana National Register of Historic Places Program: The Montana Historical Society's State Historic Preservation Office administers the National Register of Historic Places program for the State of Montana. Currently, over 1100 Montana properties have been listed in the National Register, including approximately 150 historic districts, each comprised of anywhere from five to hundreds of contributing buildings, structures, and sites. On average, twenty new Montana properties are listed in the National Register each year with the assistance of SHPO.
- National Register Sign Program: Since this program began in 1990, over fourteen hundred
 National Register signs have been placed across Montana, providing recognition for
 properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places while improving public
 knowledge of Montana's rich and colorful heritage, and adding to Montana's tourism
 infrastructure. Through the sign program, the Society reaches every corner of the state;
 National Register signs can be found in fifty-one of Montana's fifty-six counties.
- Social Media: The Publications program in instrumental in MHS's social media efforts, including its presence on Facebook, Flickr, Pinterest, Twitter, and YouTube. MHS also maintains a four blogs: "This Day in Montana History"; "Ellen Baumler's Montana Moments"; "Teaching American History"; and "Montana History Revealed," written by MHS Research Center staff.
- State-owned Heritage Property Stewardship: The 2011 Legislature passed amendments to the Montana State Antiquities Act (MCA 22-3-423) to require state agencies to report biennially on their stewardship of state-owned heritage properties. In 2012, the State Preservation Review Board and the Montana Historical Society's State Historic Preservation Office prepared a report to the Legislature and the Governor's Office summarizing the state agency reports and making recommendations for the improvement of stewardship of the state's known 437 significant heritage property assets: http://mhs.mt.gov/shpo/State-owned%20Heritage%20Properties.asp

Montana Historical Society Statewide Services of the Publications Program

In addition to these statewide services, the Montana Historical Society's **Publications Program** produces the quarterly award-winning *Montana The Magazine of Western History* as well as books related to a wide variety of western history topics. What follows is a listing of some of the program's most significant accomplishments:

- Montana The Magazine of Western History is published and delivered to people statewide;
 Montana looks at the history of Montana and the West both broadly and specifically. The magazine has been continuously published since 1951. A flagship for the Montana Historical Society, it keeps Montanans around the world in touch with their home state.
 - The Magazine is the state's journal of record and the official outlet for the results of new research in Montana and western history, much of which is based on work in the Montana Historical Society's Research Center and Museum. The Magazine celebrated its sixtieth birthday in 2011.
 - Montana The Magazine of Western History has an annual readership of over forty-five thousand. Magazines are sent to people across Montana and in all fifty states and seventeen foreign countries each quarter. Magazines are sold on newsstands throughout Montana and across the nation.
 - Montana The Magazine of Western History is the featured popular magazine for the Western History Association (WHA), the professional organization of historians of the American West.
 - In the past decade, articles in Montana The Magazine of Western History have won
 - Three Spur Awards from the Western Writers of America for best short nonfiction articles;
 - Two Theodore Blegen Prizes for best articles on environmental history;
 - Three Wrangler Awards from the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum for best short nonfiction articles;
 - The Mountain and Plains Museum best magazine design award;
 - The Western History Association's Ray Allen Billington Award for best article on western history;
 - The Western History Association's Arrington-Prucha Prize for the best article on religious history;
 - Westerners International Coke Wood Award for best nonfiction article;
 - The Mormon History Association T. Edgar Lyon Award;
 - The Wild West History Association Award for best article;
 - Wyoming State Historical Society best article award;
 - And have been a finalist for the Army Historical Foundation's Distinguished Writing Award and the Envirotech Distinguished article award.
 - The magazine's articles have been Spur Award runners-up three times.
- Students, teachers, library patrons, and researchers of every kind use the Magazine's online and published indexes to delve into over five decades of back issues. These issues form the most extensive body of published material about Montana in existence. PDFs are available through Proquest, a database widely used by secondary schools.

- The Magazine's complete print run is available online to researchers worldwide as a part of JSTOR. JSTOR is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to helping the scholarly community discover, use, and build upon a wide range of intellectual content in a trusted digital archive. It is one of the primary sources of information for historians researching a wide variety of topics. In the last biennium, articles from *Montana The Magazine of Western History* have been accessed on JSTOR 133,900 times by students and researchers in all fifty states and in 112 foreign countries.
- The Montana Historical Society Press—which publishes peer-reviewed trade and scholarly books and is the state's only academic press—has over sixty books in print. The MHS Press celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in 2007. It is the state's preeminent scholarly publisher.
 - In the past biennium, the MHS Press published Mining Childhood: Growing Up in Butte, 1900–1960 by Janet Finn; Hand Raised: The Barns of Montana by Chere Jiusto and Christine W. Brown with photos by Tom Ferris; The History of the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, 1600–2012, co-published with Fort Peck Tribes; I Do: A Cultural History of Montana Weddings by Martha Kohl; Montana Views: Postcards from the Montana Historical Society by society staff; and More Montana Moments by Governor's Humanities Award winner Ellen Baumler; as well as the Autobiography of Red Cloud ebook edition; Girl from the Gulches ebook edition; More Montana Moments ebook edition.
 - Upcoming MHS Press titles include Charlie's Montana: Charles M. Russell Works in the Montana Historical Society Collection by Jennifer Bottomly O'Looney and Kirby Lambert; No Step Backward: Men, Women, and Families on the Rocky Mountain Mining Frontier by Paula Petrik; Evelyn Cameron's Eye by MHS staff; People before the Park: The Kootenai, Blackfeet, and Glacier National Park by Sally Thompson; Montana Women Speak by Laurie Mercier; Seeing the West: Letters from the Montana Historical Society Collection by MHS staff; Notable Women of Montana by MHS staff; Monuments to Travel: A Statewide Survey of Montana's Railroad Depots by Mark Hufstetler; and Montana Foodways by Molly Kruckenberg, Mary Murphy, Zoe Ann Stoltz, and Jan Zuha
 - In the past decade, MHS Press books have won numerous prizes, including the Montana Book Award and Honor Book; the High Plains Book Award for Best Nonfiction; Western Writers of America Spur Award for Contemporary Nonfiction Western Book; two American Association for State and Local History's Award of Merit; Eastern National Author Award; and have been finalists for the High Plains Best First Book Award, High Plains Best Nonfiction Book Award; High Plains Art and Photography Award; High Plains Zonta Best Woman Writer Award; the WILLA Literary Award for outstanding literature featuring women's stories set in the West; and the Publishers Association of the West's U.S. Western Book and Production Award.
 - Press revenue was used to create an annual calendar of historical photographs, which is sold in bookstores around the state.
 - The Publications program helps produce the *Society Star*, MHS's quarterly newsletter, as well as various other MHS printed materials.
 - The Publications program continues to mentor students interested in careers in history and publishing through internships that further their education and build their resumes.



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